

|  |                          |                    |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449<br><br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION<br>IN AN APPLICATION<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number (Optional) | Application Number |
|  | 20 01 0465               | Not yet assigned   |
|  | Applicant                |                    |
|  | Thoma et al.             |                    |
| Filing Date  | Group Art Unit           |                    |
| herewith   | Not yet assigned         |                    |

J1011 U.S. PTO  
10/059702  
01/29/02

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE     | NAME             | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF<br>APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| 118                 | 3,927,945          | 12 23 75 | Bates            | 356   | 106      |                               |
| 118                 | 4,042,302          | 8 16 77  | Wentz            | 356   | 74       |                               |
| 118                 | 4,158,506          | 6 19 79  | Collett          | 356   | 365      |                               |
| 118                 | 4,822,169          | 4 18 89  | Distl et al.     | 356   | 364      |                               |
| 118                 | 5,841,536          | 11 24 98 | Dimmick          | 356   | 346      |                               |
| 118                 | 6,043,887          | 3 28 00  | Allard et al.    | 356   | 364      |                               |
| 118                 | 6,052,188          | 4 18 00  | Fluckiger et al. | 356   | 369      |                               |
|                     |                    |          |                  |       |          |                               |
|                     |                    |          |                  |       |          |                               |
|                     |                    |          |                  |       |          |                               |
|                     |                    |          |                  |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|     | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE     | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|-----|--------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|     |                    |          |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
| 118 | 0 439 127 A2       | 31 07 91 | Europe  |       |          | X           |    |
|     |                    |          |         |       |          |             |    |
|     |                    |          |         |       |          |             |    |
|     |                    |          |         |       |          |             |    |
|     |                    |          |         |       |          |             |    |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 118 | Jacquin, J., Examiner, European Search Report, Application Number EP 01 11 3885, dated 6 November 2001. |
|     |   |
|     |   |
|     |   |

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER  | DATE CONSIDERED |
| <i>Aska</i>   | 6/16/01         |
| EXAMINER Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. |                 |